

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:	)	Docket No. 26681-RE1
PRUITT, Martin E., et al.	)	Customer No. 23589
S.N. 10/765,030	)	Group Art 3671
Filed 1/26/2004	)	Examiner Alicia M. Torres
Confirmation No. 1988	)	
Reissue of Patent No. 6,158,201	)	
Issued: December 12, 2000	)	
ROTARY MOWER CONDITIONER	)	
HAVING IMPROVED CUT CROP FLOW	)	

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Mail Stop Reissue  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

THIRD STATEMENT OF STATUS AND SUPPORT FOR CHANGES TO CLAIMS  
UNDER 37 CFR § 1.173(c)

Following is a statement of the status of the claims in the instant reissue application as compared to the claims of Patent 6,158,201 and support for changes made therein:

Claims 1-32, 40, 41, 43, 46-49, and new claims 50, 51 are pending in the application.

Claims 2, 13, 24, and 25 remain as originally patented in U.S. Patent No. 6,158,201 without any amendment.

Claims 1, 3-12, 14-23, and 26-32 are amended with respect to the claims of Patent 6,158,201, and claims 40-43, 46-49, and 50, 51 are newly added with respect to the claims of Patent 6,158,201.

The following sets forth exemplary support for the claim changes, with reference to the column and line number from Patent No. 6,158,201 (support for all claim preambles may be found in the original claims and will not be repeated herein):

<i>Changes</i>	<i>Support</i>
<b>Claim 1:</b>	
a crop cutting assembly comprising a series of rotary cutters that are rotatable about individual, upright axes and <u>have knives</u> that cooperatively define a laterally extending <u>generally planar</u> cutting zone along which crop material is severed from the ground by the cutting assembly;	Figs. 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 10,11; col. 9, ll. 29-32
a pair of laterally extending crop conditioning rolls cooperatively defining a nip therebetween that is spaced upwardly and rearwardly from the cutting zone <sub>a</sub> [; and]	punctuation changes
<u>said pair of conditioning rolls including a lower conditioning roll having a lower, forward peripheral portion that moves forwardly and upwardly generally toward the rotary cutters during rotation of the lower conditioning roll; and</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 1-4; col. 10, ll. 12-17
a driveable crop conveying element having at least a portion thereof that moves upwardly and rearwardly between the cutting zone and the nip to convey crop cut by the cutting assembly toward the nip when the element is driven <sub>a</sub>	punctuation change

<p><u>said conveying element comprising a laterally extending, rotatable conveying roller having an upper forward peripheral portion that moves rearwardly and upwardly generally away from the rotary cutters during rotation of the conveying roller and a lower, forward peripheral portion that moves forwardly and upwardly generally toward the rotary cutters during rotation of the conveying roller.</u></p>	<p>Figs. 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 48-51; col. 9, ll. 9-12; col. 9, ll. 32-35</p>
<p><u>said upper forward peripheral portion of the conveying roller being disposed in front of the lower forward peripheral portion of the lower conditioning roll, and most of the lower, forward peripheral portion of the conveying roller being disposed below the plane of said cutting zone.</u></p>	<p>Figs. 6,7; col. 9, ll. 29-45; col. 10, ll. 52-55</p>
<p><b>Claim 3:</b></p>	
<p>each of said crop conveying assemblies including a plurality of laterally spaced impeller [cages] <u>devices</u> rotatable about individual, upright axes</p>	<p>Figs. 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B; col. 5, ll. 15-25, ll. 40-46, 60-67; col. 6, ll. 1-15</p>
<p>each of said impeller [cages] <u>devices</u> presenting a front moveable boundary that is spaced forwardly of the adjacent inwardly spaced impeller [cage] <u>device</u></p>	<p>Figs. 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B; col. 5, ll. 15-25, ll. 40-46, 60-67; col. 6, ll. 1-15</p>

<b>Claim 4:</b>	
said plurality of impeller [cages] <u>devices</u> including a first impeller [cage] <u>device</u> mounted to the first cutter for rotational movement therewith, a second impeller [cage] <u>device</u> mounted to the second cutter for rotational movement therewith, and an intermediate impeller [cage] <u>device</u> suspended from the header framework between the first and second impeller [cages] <u>devices</u>	Figs. 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B; col. 5, ll. 15-25, ll. 40-46, 60-67; col. 6, ll. 1-15
<b>Claim 5:</b>	
[said crop cutting assembly and said conveying element defining a downwardly open area therebetween.]	
<u>said conveying roller having an outermost diameter that is smaller than the outermost diameter of the lower conditioning roll.</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 9, ll. 22-24
<b>Claim 6:</b>	
[said conveying element comprising a laterally extending, rotatable conveying roller having an outer periphery defining the upwardly and rearwardly moveable portion of the conveying element]	
<u>each of said impeller devices comprising a cage.</u>	Figs. 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B; col. 5, ll. 15-25, ll. 40-46, 60-67; col. 6, ll. 1-15
<b>Claim 7:</b>	
[said conveying roller and said cutting assembly presenting a downwardly open area therebetween.]	

<u>said conveying roller comprising a single roller, unaccompanied by an upper roller forming a nip therewith.</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 48-58
<b>Claim 8:</b>	
[said conveying roller including at least one helical rib extending along the roller periphery and having opposite inclination on either side of the midpoint of the conveying roller.]	
<u>said series of cutters including multiple pairs of oppositely rotating cutters.</u>	Fig. 3; col. 4, ll. 60-67; col. 5, line 1
<b>Claim 9:</b>	
<u>a crop cutting assembly comprising a series of rotary cutters that are rotatable about individual, upright axes and that cooperatively define a laterally extending cutting zone along which crop material is severed from the ground by the cutting assembly;</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 10,11; col. 9, ll. 29-32
<u>a pair of laterally extending crop conditioning rolls cooperatively defining a nip therebetween that is spaced upwardly and rearwardly from the cutting zone; and</u>	Figs. 2, 3, 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 8-12
<u>a driveable crop conveying element having at least a portion thereof that moves upwardly and rearwardly between the cutting zone and the nip to convey crop cut by the cutting assembly toward the nip when the element is driven,</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 48-51; col. 9, ll. 9-12; col. 9, ll. 32-35

said conveying element comprising a <u>laterally extending, rotatable conveying roller having an outer periphery defining the upwardly and rearwardly moveable portion of the conveying element</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 48-51; col. 9, ll. 9-12; col. 9, ll. 32-35
said conveying roller having [a relatively smaller diameter than the conditioning rolls.] <u>an outermost diameter that is smaller than the outermost diameter of the lower conditioning roll</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 9, ll. 22-24, 43-45
<b>Claim 10:</b>	
[said conditioning rolls being in a stacked relationship to present an upper conditioning roll and a lower conditioning roll,	
said lower conditioning roll being rotatable about a lower conditioning roll axis,]	
said conveying roller being rotatable about a conveying roller axis that is [lower than the lower conditioning roll axis] <u>generally vertically aligned with the plane of said cutting zone</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 9, ll. 29-32
<b>Claim 11:</b>	
said [cutting zone being substantially planar and generally vertically aligned with the conveying roller axis] <u>conveying roller being rotatable about a conveying roller axis that is generally vertically aligned with the plane of said cutting zone</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 9, ll. 29-32
<b>Claim 12:</b>	

a crop cutting assembly comprising a series of rotary cutters that are rotatable about individual, upright axes and <u>have knives</u> that cooperatively define a laterally extending <u>generally planar</u> cutting zone along which crop material is severed from the ground by the cutting assembly;	Figs. 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 10,11; col. 9, ll. 29-32
a pair of laterally extending crop conditioning rolls cooperatively defining a nip therebetween that is spaced upwardly and rearwardly from the cutting zone, [; and]	punctuation changes
<u>said pair of conditioning rolls including a lower conditioning roll having a lower, forward peripheral portion that moves forwardly and upwardly generally toward the rotary cutters during rotation of the lower conditioning roll; and</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 1-4; col. 10, ll. 12-17
a driveable crop conveying element having at least a portion thereof that moves upwardly and rearwardly between the cutting zone and the nip to convey crop cut by the cutting assembly toward the nip when the element is driven,	punctuation change
<u>said conveying element comprising a laterally extending, rotatable conveying roller having an upper forward peripheral portion that moves rearwardly and upwardly generally away from the rotary cutters during rotation of the conveying roller and a lower, forward peripheral portion that moves forwardly and upwardly generally toward the rotary cutters during rotation of the conveying roller,</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 48-51; col. 9, ll. 9-12; col. 9, ll. 32-35

<p><u>said upper forward peripheral portion of the conveying roller being disposed in front of the lower forward peripheral portion of the lower conditioning roll, and most of the lower, forward peripheral portion of the conveying roller being disposed below the plane of said cutting zone.</u></p>	<p>Figs. 6,7; col. 9, ll. 29-45; col. 10, ll. 52-55</p>
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<b>Claim 14:</b>	
each of said crop conveying assemblies including a plurality of laterally spaced impeller [cages] <u>devices</u> rotatable about individual, upright axes,	Figs. 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B; col. 5, ll. 15-25, ll. 40-46, 60-67; col. 6, ll. 1-15
each of said impeller [cages] <u>devices</u> presenting a front moveable boundary that is spaced forwardly of the adjacent inwardly spaced impeller [cage] <u>device</u>	Figs. 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B; col. 5, ll. 15-25, ll. 40-46, 60-67; col. 6, ll. 1-15
<b>Claim 15:</b>	
said plurality of [impeller cages] <u>impeller devices</u> including a first impeller [cage] <u>device</u> mounted to the first cutter for rotational movement therewith, a second impeller [cage] <u>device</u> mounted to the second cutter for rotational movement therewith, and an intermediate impeller [cage] <u>device</u> suspended from the framework between the first and second impeller [cages] <u>devices</u> .	Figs. 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B; col. 5, ll. 15-25, ll. 40-46, 60-67; col. 6, ll. 1-15
<b>Claim 16:</b>	
[said crop cutting assembly and said conveying element defining a downwardly open area therebetween.]	
<u>said conveying roller having an outermost diameter that is smaller than the outermost diameter of the lower conditioning roll.</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 9, ll. 22-24, 43-45

<b>Claim 17:</b>	
[said conveying element comprising a laterally extending, rotatable conveying roller having an outer periphery defining the upwardly and rearwardly moveable portion of the conveying element.]	
<u>each of said impeller devices comprising a cage.</u>	Figs. 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B; col. 5, ll. 15-25, ll. 40-46, 60-67; col. 6, ll. 1-15
<b>Claim 18:</b>	
[said conveying roller and said cutting assembly presenting a downwardly open area therebetween.]	
<u>said conveying roller comprising a single roller, unaccompanied by an upper roller forming a nip therewith.</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 48-58
<b>Claim 19:</b>	
[said conveying roller including at least one helical rib extending along the roller periphery and having opposite inclination on either side of the midpoint of the conveying roller.]	
<u>said series of cutters including multiple pairs of oppositely rotating cutters.</u>	Fig. 3; col. 4, ll. 60-67; col. 5, line 1
<b>Claim 20:</b>	
<u>a crop cutting assembly comprising a series of rotary cutters that are rotatable about individual, upright axes and that cooperatively define a laterally extending cutting zone along which crop material is severed from the ground by the cutting assembly;</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 10,11; col. 9, ll. 29-32

<u>a pair of laterally extending crop conditioning rolls cooperatively defining a nip therebetween that is spaced upwardly and rearwardly from the cutting zone; and</u>	Figs. 2, 3, 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 8-12
<u>a driveable crop conveying element having at least a portion thereof that moves upwardly and rearwardly between the cutting zone and the nip to convey crop cut by the cutting assembly toward the nip when the element is driven,</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 48-51; col. 9, ll. 9-12; col. 9, ll. 32-35
<u>said conveying element comprising a laterally extending, rotatable conveying roller having an outer periphery defining the upwardly and rearwardly moveable portion of the conveying element,</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 48-51; col. 9, ll. 9-12; col. 9, ll. 32-35
said conveying roller having [a relatively smaller diameter than the conditioning rolls.] <u>an outermost diameter that is smaller than the outermost diameter of the lower conditioning roll,</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 9, ll. 22-24, 43-45
<b>Claim 21:</b>	
[said conditioning rolls being in a stacked relationship to present an upper conditioning roll and a lower conditioning roll,	
said lower conditioning roll being rotatable about a lower conditioning roll axis,]	
said conveying roller being rotatable about a conveying roller axis that is [lower than the lower conditioning roll axis] <u>generally vertically aligned with the plane of said cutting zone,</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 9, ll. 29-32

<b>Claim 22:</b>	
said [cutting zone being substantially planar and generally vertically aligned with the conveying roller axis] <u>series of cutters including multiple pairs of oppositely rotating cutters.</u>	Fig. 3; col. 4, ll. 60-67; col. 5, line 1
<b>Claim 23:</b>	
a cutter bed extending across the path of travel of the frame and including a series of rotary cutters <u>that are</u> rotatable about individual, upright axes <u>and that have knives that cooperatively define a laterally extending generally planar cutting zone along which crop material is severed from the ground by the cutter bed,</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 10,11; col. 9, ll. 29-32
a pair of crop conditioning rolls spanning the discharge opening and defining a nip therebetween that is spaced upwardly and rearwardly from the cutter bed, [and]	
<u>said pair of conditioning rolls including a lower conditioning roll having a lower, forward peripheral portion that moves forwardly and upwardly generally toward the rotary cutters during rotation of the lower conditioning roll, and</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 1-4; col. 10, ll. 12-17
<u>said conveying roller having an upper forward peripheral portion that moves rearwardly and upwardly generally away from the rotary cutters during rotation of the conveying roller and a lower, forward peripheral portion that moves forwardly and upwardly generally toward the rotary cutters during rotation of the conveying roller,</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 48-51; col. 9, ll. 9-12; col. 9, ll. 32-35

<u>said upper forward peripheral portion of the conveying roller being disposed in front of the lower forward peripheral portion of the lower conditioning roll, and most of the lower, forward peripheral portion of the conveying roller being disposed below the plane of said cutting zone.</u>	Figs. 6,7; col. 9, ll. 29-45; col. 10, ll. 52-55
<b>Claim 26:</b>	
each of said crop conveying assemblies including a plurality of laterally spaced impeller [cages] <u>devices</u> rotatable about individual, upright axes,	Figs. 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B; col. 5, ll. 15-25, ll. 40-46, 60-67; col. 6, ll. 1-15
each of said impeller [cages] <u>devices</u> presenting a front moveable boundary that is spaced forwardly of the adjacent inwardly spaced impeller [cage] <u>device</u> .	Figs. 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B; col. 5, ll. 15-25, ll. 40-46, 60-67; col. 6, ll. 1-15
<b>Claim 27:</b>	
said plurality of impeller [cages] <u>devices</u> including a first impeller [cage] <u>device</u> mounted to the first cutter for rotational movement therewith, a second impeller [cage] <u>device</u> mounted to the second cutter for rotational movement therewith, and an intermediate impeller [cage] <u>device</u> suspended from the framework between the first and second impeller [cages] <u>devices</u> .	Figs. 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B; col. 5, ll. 15-25, ll. 40-46, 60-67; col. 6, ll. 1-15
<b>Claim 28:</b>	
[said cutter bed and said conveying roller defining a downwardly open area therebetween.]	

<u>each of said impeller devices comprising a cage.</u>	Figs. 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B; col. 5, ll. 15-25, ll. 40-46, 60-67; col. 6, ll. 1-15
<b>Claim 29:</b>	
[said conveying roller including at least one helical rib extending along the roller periphery and having opposite inclination on either side of the midpoint of the conveying roller.]	
<u>said series of rotary cutters including multiple pairs of oppositely rotating cutters disposed in forward alignment with said discharge opening.</u>	Fig. 3; col. 4, ll. 60-67; col. 5, line 1
<b>Claim 30:</b>	
said conveying roller having [a relatively smaller diameter than the conditioning rolls.] <u>an outermost diameter that is smaller than the outermost diameter of the lower conditioning roll.</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 9, ll. 22-24
<b>Claim 31:</b>	
[said conditioning rolls being in a stacked relationship to present an upper conditioning roll and a lower conditioning roll,	
said lower conditioning roll being rotatable about a lower conditioning roll axis,]	
said conveying roller being rotatable about a conveying roller axis that is [lower than the lower conditioning roll axis.] <u>generally vertically aligned with the plane of said cutting zone.</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 9, ll. 29-32
<b>Claim 32:</b>	
[said cutter bed defining a substantially planar cutting zone,]	

said <u>conveying roller having a conveying roller axis [being] that is generally vertically aligned with the plane of the cutting zone.</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 9, ll. 29-32
<b>Claim 40:</b>	
<u>a mobile frame; and</u>	Fig. 1; col. 2, ll. 66-68; col. 3, ll. 1-4
<u>a harvesting header supported on the frame for harvesting crop as the frame moves across a field, said header including</u>	Fig. 1; col. 3, ll. 9-10
<u>a cutter bed extending across the path of travel of the frame and including a series of rotary cutters rotatable about individual, upright axes,</u>	Figs. 2, 3, 6, 7; col. 3, ll. 66, 67; col. 4, ll. 1-6
<u>said cutters having knives that cooperatively define a laterally extending generally planar cutting zone along which crop material is severed from the ground by the cutter bed,</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 10,11; col. 9, ll. 29-32
<u>header framework defining a laterally extending discharge opening spaced rearwardly from the cutter bed, with the opening being configured to receive cut crop from the series of cutters,</u>	Figs. 2, 3; col. 3, ll. 35-40, ll. 48-53
<u>a pair of transversely extending, oppositely rotating crop conditioning rolls disposed within and spanning the discharge opening and defining a nip therebetween that is spaced upwardly and rearwardly from the cutter bed,</u>	Figs. 2, 3, 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 8-12

<u>said pair of conditioning rolls including a lower conditioning roll having a lower, forward peripheral portion that moves forwardly and upwardly generally toward the rotary cutters during rotation of the lower conditioning roll,</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 1-4; col. 10, ll. 12-17
<u>said discharge opening having a pair of opposite ends,</u>	Figs. 2, 3; col. 3, ll. 48-58
<u>said series of cutters including multiple pairs of oppositely rotating cutters positioned to direct severed material into the discharge opening,</u>	Fig. 3; col. 4, ll. 60-67; col. 5, line 1
<u>said cutter bed projecting laterally outwardly beyond opposite ends of the discharge opening to present two sets of outboard cutters at opposite ends of the cutter bed that are disposed outboard of the discharge opening with the outboard cutters of each set rotating in the same direction generally inwardly toward the discharge opening,</u>	Figs. 2, 3; col. 4, ll. 54-67; col. 5, line 1
<u>a pair of crop conveying assemblies at opposite ends of the cutter bed for assisting in directing crop severed by the outboard cutters laterally inwardly generally toward the discharge opening,</u>	Figs. 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B; col. 5, ll. 11-25, ll. 40-46, 60-67; col. 6, ll. 1-15
<u>each of said crop conveying assemblies comprising a plurality of laterally spaced impeller devices disposed higher than the outboard cutters and rotatable inwardly about individual, upright axes,</u>	Figs. 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B; col. 5, ll. 15-25, ll. 40-46, 60-67; col. 6, ll. 1-15
<u>a laterally extending crop conveying roller located between the cutter bed and the nip,</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 48-51; col. 9, ll. 9-12; col. 9, ll. 32-35



<u>said conveying roller being rotatable in a direction to move crop from the cutter bed toward the nip.</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 48-51; col. 9, ll. 9-12; col. 9, ll. 32-35
<u>said conveying roller being disposed within said discharge opening and spanning the same.</u>	Figs. 2, 3, 6, 7; col. 9, ll. 24-29
<u>said conveying roller having an upper forward peripheral portion that moves rearwardly and upwardly generally away from the rotary cutters during rotation of the conveying roller and a lower, forward peripheral portion that moves forwardly and upwardly generally toward the rotary cutters during rotation of the conveying roller.</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 48-51; col. 9, ll. 9-12; col. 9, ll. 32-35
<u>said upper forward peripheral portion of the conveying roller being disposed in front of the lower forward peripheral portion of the lower conditioning roll, and most of the lower, forward peripheral portion of the conveying roller being disposed below the plane of said cutting zone.</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 9, ll. 29-45; col. 10, ll. 52-55
<b>Claim 41:</b>	
<u>said conveying roller having an outermost diameter that is smaller than the outermost diameter of the lower conditioning roll.</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 9, ll. 29-32; col. 9, ll. 22-24
<b>Claim 43:</b>	
<u>said conveying roller being rotatable about a conveying roller axis that is generally vertically aligned with the plane of said cutting zone.</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 4, ll. 50-53; col. 9, ll. 29-32

<b>Claim 46:</b>	
<u>each plurality of impeller devices including an outer impeller device having a front inwardly movable boundary and an inner impeller device having a front inwardly movable boundary.</u>	Figs. 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B; col. 5, ll. 15-25, ll. 40-46, 60-67; col. 6, ll. 1-15
<u>the inwardly movable boundary of each outer impeller device being spaced forwardly of the inwardly movable boundary of the corresponding inner impeller device.</u>	Figs. 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B; col. 5, ll. 15-25, ll. 40-46, 60-67; col. 6, ll. 1-15
<b>Claim 47:</b>	
<u>each plurality of impeller devices further including an intermediate impeller device disposed generally between said outer impeller device and said inner impeller device.</u>	Figs. 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B; col. 5, ll. 15-25, ll. 40-46, 60-67; col. 6, ll. 1-15
<u>each intermediate impeller device having a front inwardly movable boundary.</u>	Figs. 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B; col. 5, ll. 15-25, ll. 40-46, 60-67; col. 6, ll. 1-15
<u>the inwardly movable boundary of each outer impeller device being spaced forwardly of the inwardly movable boundary of the corresponding intermediate impeller device.</u>	Figs. 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B; col. 5, ll. 15-25, ll. 40-46, 60-67; col. 6, ll. 1-15

<b>Claim 48:</b>	
<u>each set of outboard cutters including an outer cutter and an inner cutter,</u>	col. 4, ll. 54-57
<u>said plurality of impeller devices including an outer impeller device rotatable about the same axis of rotation as the corresponding outer cutter and an inner impeller device rotatable about the same axis of rotation as the corresponding inner cutter.</u>	Figs. 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B; col. 5, ll. 15-25, ll. 40-46, 60-67; col. 6, ll. 1-15
<b>Claim 49:</b>	
<u>at least some of said impeller devices being generally cylindrical and comprising cages having a plurality of circumferentially spaced uprights.</u>	Figs. 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B; col. 5, ll. 15-25, ll. 40-46, 60-67; col. 6, ll. 1-15
<b>Claim 50:</b>	
<u>a crop cutting assembly comprising a series of rotary cutters that are rotatable about individual, upright axes and have knives that cooperatively define a laterally extending generally planar cutting zone along which crop material is severed from the ground by the cutting assembly;</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 10,11; col. 9, ll. 29-32
<u>a pair of laterally extending crop conditioning rolls cooperatively defining a nip therebetween that is spaced upwardly and rearwardly from the cutting zone.</u>	Figs. 2, 3, 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 8-12

<u>said pair of conditioning rolls including a lower conditioning roll having a lower, forward peripheral portion that moves forwardly and upwardly generally toward the rotary cutters during rotation of the lower conditioning roll; and</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 1-4; col. 10, ll. 12-17
<u>a driveable crop conveying element having at least a portion thereof that moves upwardly and rearwardly between the cutting zone and the nip to convey crop cut by the cutting assembly toward the nip when the element is driven,</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 48-51; col. 9, ll. 9-12; col. 9, ll. 32-35
<u>said conveying element comprising a laterally extending, rotatable conveying roller having an upper forward peripheral portion that moves rearwardly and upwardly generally away from the rotary cutters during rotation of the conveying roller,</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 48-51; col. 9, ll. 9-12; col. 9, ll. 32-35
<u>said upper forward peripheral portion of the conveying roller being disposed in front of the lower forward peripheral portion of the lower conditioning roll and generally below the axis of rotation of the lower conditioning roll,</u>	Figs. 6,7; col. 9, ll. 29-45; col. 10, ll. 52-55
<u>said conveying roller projecting downwardly below the plane of said cutting zone.</u>	Figs. 6,7; col. 9, ll. 29-45; col. 10, ll. 52-55
<b>Claim 51:</b>	
<u>said conveying roller comprising a single roller, unaccompanied by an upper roller forming a nip therewith.</u>	Figs. 6, 7; col. 8, ll. 48-58

The amendments to the claims are explained in further detail in the accompanying Amendment filed herewith.

Any fee which is due in connection with this Third Statement of Status and Support for claims should be applied against our Deposit Account No. 19-0522.

Respectfully submitted,

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